UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/48/155
7 March 1994

Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 115

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/48/633)]

48/155. Situation of human rights in Estonia and Latvia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/115 of 16 December 1992,

Taking into account the provisions of the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live, 1/

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 2/

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and of the conclusions and recommendations therein of the United Nations fact-finding missions to Estonia and Latvia; 2/

2. Welcomes the cooperation that the Governments of Estonia and Latvia have extended to various international fact-finding missions;

3. Notes the existence of unresolved issues that involve large groups of population of different ethnic origin;

1/ Resolution 40/144, annex.

2/ A/48/511.

4. Requests the Secretary-General to keep Member States informed of the situation of human rights in Estonia and Latvia, and decides to consider the question at one of its future sessions.

85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993

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A/RES/48/156
7 March 1994

Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 172

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/48/634)]

48/156. Need to adopt efficient international measures for the prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989,

Recalling also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children 1/ and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, 1/ adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990, and recalling that in the Declaration States made a solemn commitment to give priority to the rights of the child and to his or her survival, protection and development, thus contributing to the welfare of every society,

Mindful of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, 2/ adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, which requires effective measures against female infanticide, harmful child labour, sale of children and organs, child prostitution, child pornography, as well as other forms of sexual abuse,

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1/ A/45/625, annex.

2/ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/74 of 5 March 1992, 3/ by which the Commission adopted the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography,

Recognizing the enormous efforts made in this field by the United Nations, particularly the United Nations Children's Fund, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,

Deeply concerned by the persistence of the practice of the use of children for prostitution, sexual abuse and other activities, which may also often constitute exploitation of child labour,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of the practice of the sale of children and other practices, which may be linked to related disappearances, illegal adoptions, abandonment, kidnapping and abductions for commercial purposes,

Regretting that one of the main difficulties found by the Special Rapporteur has been the lack of information on this issue,

Bearing in mind the different causes that influence the emergence and continuation of these special circumstances, including in particular poverty, natural disasters and armed conflicts, and their harmful effects on the rights of children,

Considering that it is necessary to redouble efforts at the national and international level to promote and protect the rights of children all over the world,

Expressing its interest in benefiting from the studies, conclusions and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur,

1. Expresses great concern at the growing number of incidents worldwide related to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

2. Urges Governments to continue searching for solutions as well as ways and means of enhancing international cooperation to eradicate such aberrant practices;

3. Expresses its support for the work of the Special Rapporteur appointed by the Commission on Human Rights to examine all over the world the question of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and urges him to continue his efforts in the discharge of his mandate;

4. Urges all Governments to collaborate with the Special Rapporteur and to assist him by providing him with all the requested information;

3/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2 (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

5. Calls upon those States which have not done so to become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and calls upon the States parties to the Convention to implement national measures aimed at fulfilling the provisions of the Convention;

6. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to consider, during its fiftieth session, the creation of a working group to study, as a matter of priority and in close contact with the Special Rapporteur, the elaboration of guidelines for a possible draft convention on the issues related to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as the basic measures required for preventing and eradicating these serious problems;

7. Requests the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to transmit paragraph 6 above to the Committee on the Rights of the Child so that it can express its comments;

8. Invites the Special Rapporteur, within the framework of his mandate, to continue giving attention to the economic, social, legal and cultural factors affecting these phenomena;

9. Requests the Special Rapporteur to submit a provisional report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, from within existing resources, to provide the Special Rapporteur and the working group of the Commission on Human Rights with every necessary assistance;

11. Decides to consider this question at its forty-ninth session under the item entitled "Necessity of adopting effective measures for the promotion and protection of the rights of children throughout the world who are victims of especially difficult circumstances, including armed conflicts".

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/48/634)]

48/157. Protection of children affected by armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, by which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and its resolution 3318 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict,

Recalling that the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 1/ and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977, 2/ as well as article 38 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, accord children special protection and treatment,

Recalling the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children 3/ and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, 3/ adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990, and stressing the necessity of implementing their provisions,

Taking note of the report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its third session, held at Geneva from 11 to 29 January 1993, 4/ in

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1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

2/ Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

3/ A/45/625, annex.

4/ CRC/C/16.

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particular its recommendation to the General Assembly that the Secretary-General should undertake a study of the ways and means of improving the protection of children from the adverse effects of armed conflicts,

Taking note also of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/83 of 10 March 1993, 5/

Mindful of the strong support of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, for the proposed study by the Secretary-General, as reflected in paragraph 50 of section II of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, 6/

Profoundly concerned about the grievous deterioration in the situation of children in many parts of the world as a result of armed conflicts, and convinced that immediate and concerted action is called for,

Convinced that children affected by armed conflicts require the special protection of the international community and that there is a need for all States to work towards the alleviation of their plight,

Recognizing the valuable work done in this field by United Nations bodies and organizations, as well as by other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. Expresses grave concern about the tragic situation of children in many parts of the world as a result of armed conflicts;

2. Calls upon States fully to respect the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977, as well as those of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which accord children affected by armed conflicts special protection and treatment;

3. Urges all Member States to continue seeking comprehensive improvement of the situation of children affected by armed conflicts with appropriate and concrete measures;

4. Requests bodies and organizations of the United Nations, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, within the scope of their respective mandates, to cooperate in order to ensure more effective action in addressing the problem of children affected by armed conflicts;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on those concrete measures which have been taken, pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 above, to alleviate the situation of children in armed conflict;

5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 3 (E/1993/23), chap. II, sect. A.

6/ (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

6. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on its third session 4/ and the recommendations contained therein concerning the situation of children affected by armed conflict;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to appoint an expert, working in collaboration with the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and the United Nations Children's Fund, to undertake a comprehensive study of this question, including the participation of children in armed conflict, as well as the relevance and adequacy of existing standards, and to make specific recommendations on ways and means of preventing children from being affected by armed conflicts and of improving the protection of children in armed conflicts and on measures to ensure effective protection of these children, including from indiscriminate use of all weapons of war, especially anti-personnel mines, and to promote their physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration, in particular, measures to ensure proper medical care and adequate nutrition, taking into account the recommendations by the World Conference on Human Rights and the Committee on the Rights of the Child;

8. Requests Member States and United Nations bodies and organizations, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross, to contribute to the study requested in paragraph 7 above;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the study to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

10. Invites the Commission on Human Rights to consider the study at its fifty-first session;

11. Decides to consider this question at its forty-ninth session under the item entitled "Necessity of adopting effective measures for the promotion and protection of the rights of children throughout the world who are victims of especially difficult circumstances, including armed conflicts".

85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993